



Commission  
to Prevent Violence  
Against Women

**Arizona Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women  
Victim Services Committee  
August 8, 2019, 2:00 p.m.  
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family  
Conference Room A**

1700 W. Washington, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women was convened on August 8, 2019 at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family at 1700 W. Washington, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (6)	
Tasha Menaker- Chair	
Lauren Reed	
Kate Chisholm	
Melissa Thomas	
Ed Mercurio-Sawka (Phone)	
Eve Scarff (Phone)	
Staff/Guests Present (4)	Members Absent (5)
Rebecca Chesley	Patricia Klahr
Sonya Pierce-Johnson	Kay Radwanski
Diane Umphress	Leanne Guy
Kacie Kliebert	Colleen Phelan
	Jon Smith

**Call to Order**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, called the Victim Services Committee meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. with 6 members and 4 staff and guests present.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, welcomed everyone and asked all members, staff, and guests to introduce themselves.

**Approval of minutes**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair**, asked for subcommittee members to review the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 minutes. **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** asked for a motion to approve the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 minutes. Approval of minutes was postponed due to the make up for the quorum.

**Strategic Plans and Community Assessments**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** asked subcommittee members to review the STOP Grant Implementation Plan in order to identify priorities for the subcommittee. Members received the plan before the meeting to adequately review. Subcommittee members discussed the current status and needs of Sexual Assault Response Teams, satisfaction of victims with services, serving underserved populations, holding perpetrators accountable, and Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams.
- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** asked subcommittee members how the group could support underserved populations and proposed that this conversation be postponed until a representative from Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition is present. Subcommittee members discussed the importance of serving Spanish speaking victims, and coordination with population-specific service providers. **Ms. Tasha Menaker, chair** proposed a future agenda item for Diane Umphress to talk about her MOU with the Mexico Consulate, including other Family Advocacy Center employees that work with Mexican citizens. **Lauren Reed** proposed also working with the Phoenix Welcome Center for asylum seekers. She also emphasized the importance of working with teens and emphasizing what services are confidential and what services require parent permission.
- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** asked subcommittee members for feedback on training regarding perpetration, both sexual violence and domestic violence perpetration. She stated that ACESDV offers training on this, but proposed working with the Training and Prevention Subcommittee on a training for advocates so they can help survivors understand the individual and societal aspects. **Ed Mercurio-Sawka** emphasized the need for this training to be practical and not just theoretical.
- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** asked subcommittee member to review the statute regarding Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams and asked for suggestions on how the subcommittee can support these. **Kate Chisholm** reported that the Attorney General's office forwards these to the Senate, House of Representatives, and other Government Agencies and proposed involving Dr. Neil Websdale to discuss the current state of these review teams. Subcommittee members discussed various review teams and other agencies to have involved, such as the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. **Diane Umphress** proposed the incorporation of domestic violence-related suicides into these review teams. **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** thanked subcommittee members and stated that proposed items would be included into future meetings and agenda items.

### **Electronic Protective Orders**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** provided an update on the electronic protective orders, stating that ACESDV with key stakeholders to support the changes. Subcommittee stated some of their current concerns with the process and discussed opportunities to support the new electronic system. Subcommittee members requested a commission presentation with updates, as they have not yet been able to see the updates.

### **Member Updates**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** asked subcommittee members to provide updates that would be relevant to the group. **Rebecca Chesley** provided updates on Lighting Arizona Purple Plans, including the upcoming toolkit, webinar, kick-off event, and faith community roundtable. **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** stated that ACESDV has started two support groups for survivors of sexual and domestic violence. They have also housed an advocate at Ability360. She also provided an update on their BaRC funding (Barrier Reduction Collaborative), which provides pet-inclusive services.

#### **Future Meeting Dates**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** proposed the next meeting take place on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 10a.m. All subcommittee members present agreed.

#### **Adjournment**

- **Ms. Tasha Menaker, Chair** called for adjournment at 3:20. **Lauren Reed** motioned to adjourn, **Melissa Thomas** seconded the motion. Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.

Dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, 2019  
Victim Services Subcommittee  
Respectfully Submitted By:  
Rebecca Chesley  
Program Administrator, GOYFF